THE

LITTLE PILGRIM

"We will go up by the King's highway."

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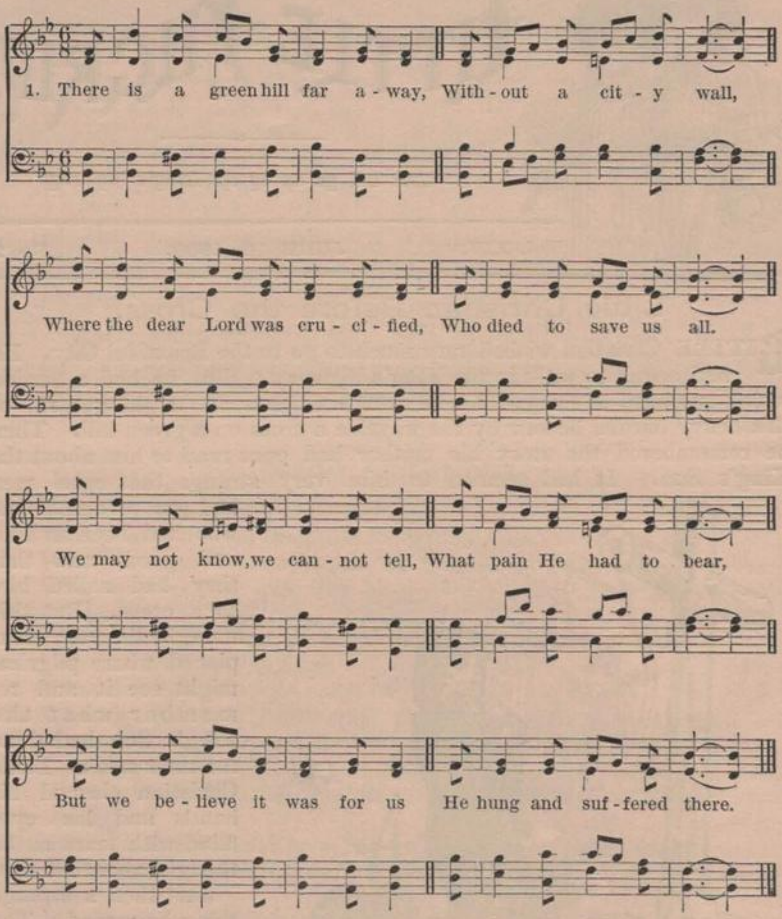
Little Christian Before the Cross.

LITTLE Christian wished very much to go to the Beautiful City. He had begun to walk in the King's highway. But he had a burden which was hard to carry. As he wondered how he might get rid of this heavy burden he saw by the wayside a cross on a green hill. Then he remembered the story his mother had once read to him about the King's Son. It had seemed to him very strange that cruel men had put to death One who had been so kind and good, and that they had nailed him to a cross. But this must be the very cross placed where pilgrims might see it and remember what the King's Son had done for their sakes. Little Christian clasped his hands and his eyes filled with tears as he thought about all this.

Just then a strange thing happened. The burden rolled away from Little Christian, and a gentle voice whispered: "Thy sins are forgiven thee; go in peace." So he went on his way singing for joy.

There is a Green Hill far away.



2 He died that we might be forgiven,
He died to make us good,
That we might go at last to heaven,
Saved by His precious blood.
There was no other good enough
To pay the price of sin;
He only could unlock the gate
Of heaven, and let us in.

3 Oh dearly, dearly has He loved,
And we must love Him too,
And trust in His redeeming blood,
And try His works to do.
For there's a green hill far away,
Without a city wall,
Where the dear Lord was crucified,
Who died to save us all.

From "PILGRIM SONGS."

Lesson Story.

MARK 15: 21-39.

THE crowd of people, with Jesus in their midst carrying a heavy cross, went out of the city of Jerusalem. Jesus became so weak that a man named Simon was called to help him carry the cross. When they came to a little hill not far away, the cruel soldiers nailed Jesus to the cross and then set it up. On either side of Jesus was placed a cross on which was a robber. Over the head of our Saviour was placed the words: "THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS." It was nine o'clock in the morning when Jesus was placed on the cross. Through the day he hung there, while many passed by, making fun of him and saying rude and cruel things. The soldiers sat and watched him, and drew lots to see which one should have his clothing. Once some one put to his lips a sponge filled with something which should make his suffering less, but Jesus would not take it. About noon-time the sun became hidden, and it grew very dark, and at three in the afternoon Jesus spoke his last words: "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit." Then with a loud cry the suffering Saviour died. How he had suffered no one can ever know, for he bore the sins of all the world. He died that you might be forgiven and be made pure in heart.

While Jesus was on the cross he spoke seven times. He asked God to forgive the cruel men who nailed him to the cross. He spoke words of care for his mother. No wonder that the captain of the soldiers, who had watched him through all his sufferings, said when the sad eyes had closed for the last time: "Truly this man was the Son of God."

GOLDEN TEXT.—He humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.—Phil. 2: 8.

Bible Lesson.

21. And they compel one Simon a Cyrenian, who passed by, coming out of the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to bear his cross.
22. And they bring him unto the place Golgotha, which is, being interpreted, The place of a skull.
23. And they gave him to drink wine mingled with myrrh: but he received *it* not.
24. And when they had crucified him, they parted his garments, casting lots upon them, what every man should take.
25. And it was the third hour, and they crucified him.
26. And the superscription of his accusation was written over, THE KING OF THE JEWS.
27. And with him they crucified two thieves; the one on his right hand, and the other on his left.
28. And the Scripture was fulfilled, which saith, And he was numbered with the transgressors.
29. And they that passed by railed on him, wagging their heads, and saying, Ah, thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest *it* in three days,
30. Save thyself, and come down from the cross.
31. Likewise also the chief priests mocking said among themselves with the scribes, He saved others; himself he cannot save.
32. Let Christ the King of Israel descend now from the cross, that we may see and believe. And they that were crucified with him reviled him.
33. And when the sixth hour was come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour.
34. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani? which is, being interpreted, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?
35. And some of them that stood by, when they heard *it*, said, Behold, he calleth Elias.
36. And one ran and filled a sponge full of vinegar, and put *it* on a reed, and gave him to drink, saying, Let alone; let us see whether Elias will come to take him down.
37. And Jesus cried with a loud voice, and gave up the ghost.
38. And the vail of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom.
39. And when the centurion, which stood over against him, saw that he so cried out, and gave up the ghost, he said, Truly this man was the Son of God. — MARK 15: 21-39.

Lesson Questions.

1. How did Jesus die? *On the cross.*
2. Who placed him on the cross? *Wicked men.*
3. Where was the cross set up? *At Golgotha, or Calvary.*
4. What was written over the head of Jesus? "*This is Jesus the King of the Jews.*"
5. What did the soldiers do while Jesus hung on the cross? "*They parted his garments among them.*"
6. What did those do who passed by? *Made fun of him.*
7. What did the scribes and chief priests do? *They mocked him.*
8. Who were crucified on either side of Jesus? *Two robbers.*
9. How long was Jesus on the cross before his death? *Six hours.*
10. What occurred during the last three? "*There was darkness over all the land.*"
11. How many times did he speak on the cross? *Seven times.*
12. What were his last words? "*Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit.*"
13. At what hour did Jesus die? *At three o'clock in the afternoon.*
14. Why did Jesus suffer and die? *That my sins might be forgiven.*

THE LOVE OF JESUS.

WERE the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

LESSON ECHOES.

Love
Brought Jesus to this world.
Led him to suffer and die.
Should lead you to give yourself to him.

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